

Message Text

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13

ACTION EA-14

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FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2057

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR CH VN

SUBJ: PRC OBSERVANCE OF THE DRVN'S 29TH ANNIVERSARY

SUMMARY. ON THE 29TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE DRVN, CHINA HAS FOCUSED ON HANOI'S ECONOMIC ACHIEVEMENTS. THIS YEAR'S TREATMENT, LIKE THAT OF 1973, SUGGESTS PEKING'S GENERAL SATISFACTION WITH THE TREND OF EVENTS IN VIETNAM. END SUMMARY.

1. THE PRC MARKED THE 29TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE DRVN ON SEPTEMBER 2 WITH A BRIEF AND PREFUNCTORY (PEOPLE'S DAILY EDITORIAL. IT NOTED THAT PROTRACTED STRUGGLE LEADING TO A "NEW HISTORICAL ERA" WITH THE SIGNING OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT AND HANOI'S RECENT ECONOMIC ACHIEVEMENT S IN HEALING THE WOUNDS OF WAR. THE EDITORIAL MADE MENTION OF THE DRVN'S UNREMITTING EFFORTS FOR THE THOROUGH IMPLEMENTATION" OF THE AGREEMENT AND THE THIEU CLIQUE'S

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VIOLATIONS OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT " WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE U.S.".

BUT, AS IN 1973, THE EDITORIAL ASCRIBED NO PARTICULAR OFFENSE TO THE U.S. NOR DID IT GO BEYOND A REPETITION OF LAST YEAR'S PLEDGE OF SUPPORT.

2. IN GENERAL, THE EDITORIAL AND PRC STATEMENTS MARKING THE OCCASION HAVE AVOIDED DWELLING ON THE POLITICAL SITUATION AND HAVE FOCUSED INSTEAD ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS. CONSISTENT WITH THIS TREATMENT, RECENT NCNA ARTICLES HAVE HIGHLIGHTED PROGRESS IN ECONOMIC REHABILITATION AND CONSTRUCTION IN DRVN AND PRG-HELD AREAS AND REMARKED ON THE ECONOMIC DEPRESSION IN SECTORS UNDER SAIGON CONTROL.

3. THIS YEAR VICE PREMIER LI HSIEN-NIEN A LEADING ECONOMIC FIGURE, HEADED THE CHINESE DELEGATION TO THE DRVN'S RECEPTION IN PEKING, WHEREAS LAST YEAR, YEH CHIEN-YING, VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY'S CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND A LEADING MILITARY FIGURE HAD BEEN THE RANKING PRC OFFICIAL. OVERALL, PEKING'S SUBDUED AND ECONOMIC-ORIENTED TREATMENT OF THIS ANNIVERSARY CONNOTES A GENERAL SATISFACTION WITH THE TREND OF EVENTS IN VIETNAM.

4. WE NOTE THAT NCNA (AUGUST 31) REPORTED THE PRESENCE OF LY BAN, VICE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE, TRAN SAM, VICE MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENSE, AND NGUYEN VAN BIEN, VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE STATE PLANNING COMMISSION, AT THE SINO-DRVN CELEBRATIONS IN THE CHINESE CAPITAL. THE POSSIBILITY EXISTS THAT THEY ARE IN PEKING FOR ECONOMIC DISCUSSIONS.
CROSS

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